

**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
INITIAL POLLUTION REPORT**

**DATE:** 14MAY03

**SUBJ:** Alabama Flood 2003  
Multiple Counties  
Alabama

**FROM:** Rick Jardine PE, OSC

**TO:** Shane Hitchcock, Branch Chief  
Don Rigger, Section Chief  
Region 4, RRC  
USCG National Pollution Fund Center  
ADEM

**I. BACKGROUND**

FPN#	E03411
SITE ID#	Z4FE
PROJECT CEILING:	\$60,000
LEAD AGENCY:	EPA, Region 4, ERRB 61 Forsyth Street, SW Atlanta, Georgia 30303
NPL:	No
FUNDING:	OPA
LEAD OSC	Rick Jardine

**II SITUATION**

Date of Notification:	12 May 2003
Date Action Started:	12 May 2003
Date of Completion:	Open
Pollutant:	A variety of oils including hydraulic fluid, diesel fuel, and motor oil.
Resource Affected:	Fivemile Creek, Village Creek
Quantity Discharged:	Over 500 gallons
Source Identification:	Numerous drums and tanks moved by flood waters

**III. ACTIONS TAKEN**

ADEM Decatur District - SOSOC Freeman has pursued the owners of all identified hazmat/oil containers that have been deposited by flood waters. In each case thus far, the RPs have agreed to conduct response actions.

ADEM Birmingham District - SOSCs Rogers and Crosson have identified the owners of over fifty drums deposited by flood waters. The respective RPs are retrieving them. SOSCs have responded with local EMS in Jefferson and St.Clair Counties to stabilize five drums. Approximately a dozen more 55 gallon drums and a 500 gallon AST have been identified, are stable, and are awaiting collection. One owner of a 2,000 gallon AST retrieved his tank from a down-gradient community. OSC Jardine and START member Kowalski have mobilized to assist in assessment and response. OSC Jardine mobilized Kemron to recover approximately 500 gallons of oil and water that had pooled beside an unnamed tributary to Fivemile Creek. Jefferson County authorities have agreed to allow the staging of all containers at the Roads & Transportation facility in Ketona. SOSC Rogers has advised the operators of all area dams (Corps of Engineers, TVA) that drums have been discovered up gradient.

#### **IV. FUTURE ACTIONS**

EPA and ADEM will continue to advise local EMA and assess areas for potential environmental impact. OSC Jardine to mobilize Kemron to conduct further response actions including stabilization, collection, analysis, transportation, and disposal of oil and containers.

#### **V. COSTS TO DATE**

EPA	\$ 1,000
START	\$ 1,000
ERRS	\$ 2,000
FPN Ceiling:	\$ 60,000

The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on the figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The financial information is not intended to be used to support any legal action with regard to this removal.